



## BULLETIN:

### Child and Adult Care Food Program

Child & Adult Care Centers,  
Emergency Shelters, OSHC, &  
Sponsors of Family Day Care Homes

[www.education.alaska.gov/tls/cnp](http://www.education.alaska.gov/tls/cnp)

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**To:** CACFP Agencies  
CACFP Program Reviewers

**Date:** February 3, 2017

**From:** Ann-Marie Martin  
CACFP Coordinator

**Bulletin:** 2017-03

Program changes as a result of USDA Policy Memos and Technical Assistance Memos are to be implemented immediately. Please file this bulletin for reference, guidance and compliance with the Child and Adult Care Food Program. Feel free to call the Child Nutrition Programs office if you need further clarification.

#### USDA Policy Memos

1. CACFP 05-2017 Offer vs. Serve and Family Style Meals in the CACFP
2. CACFP 06-2017 Feeding Infants and Meal Pattern Requirements in the CACFP Q&A
3. FD-104 Value of Donated Foods for Audits

#### Bulletin Topics

4. Growing Healthy Alaska Kids: Farm to Summer Meal Site Sub-Grants for Child Nutrition Programs
5. Summer Food Service Program Training
6. New Meal Pattern Update
7. Updated At-Risk Afterschool Meals Handbook
8. USDA 'How Do They Compare?' chart updated
9. Reach for the Stars with Farm to Preschool
10. Claim Processing

#### 1. CACFP 05-2017 Offer vs. Serve and Family Style Meals in the CACFP

The purpose of this memorandum is to outline the use of offer versus serve (OVS) in the adult day care and at-risk afterschool settings in the CACFP, and the use of family style meals in the CACFP. Agencies can also take the DEED eLearning training on family style meal service at:

<https://education.alaska.gov/ELearning/>.

#### 2. CACFP 06-2017 Feeding Infants and Meal Pattern Requirements in the CACFP Q&A

The purpose of this memorandum is provide guidance on feeding infants and the infant meal pattern that goes into effect October 1, 2017. It also includes question and answers and will be beneficial for programs that include infants to read and begin to discuss how your agency will implement the new meal pattern. The state agency will provide revised infant menu/meal count sheets for FY2018 to assist in implementation.

#### 3. FD-104 Value of Donated Foods for Audits

The purpose of this policy memorandum is to clarify the options available to State Distributing Agencies or recipient agencies in assigning value to USDA donated foods for audit purposes.

#### **4. Growing Healthy Alaska Kids: Farm to Summer Meal Site Sub-Grants for Child Nutrition Programs**

Alaska State Department of Education and Early Development Child Nutrition Programs is in the second year of our Team Nutrition Grant that provides mini-grants to Child Nutrition Programs that operate in the summer. There were some good outcomes from last summer's grantees and we hope to have more this summer.

US Department of Agriculture (USDA) strongly encourages gardening projects and incorporation of local foods into meal programs. The Farm to Summer Meal Sites Program will be actively building healthier nutrition environments by engaging children in *fun and interactive nutrition education* that is specific to their local food system, such as growing, harvesting, and/or cooking local foods. This project will be accessible to an array of participating programs including:

- Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)
  - Child Care Centers
  - Sponsor of Family Day Care Homes
- National School Lunch Program (NSLP)
  - Resident Child Care Institutions
  - Summer School
  - Seamless Summer Program
- Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)

It is our intent to provide funding, up to \$750 per summer meal site or \$150 per family day care homes, to help purchase gardening supplies, containers, and other materials. USDA nutrition education gardening curriculum will be provided to selected sites. If you are interested in applying or have any questions, please email [Jodie.anderson@alaska.gov](mailto:Jodie.anderson@alaska.gov) or call 907.761.3854. Application deadline is February 17, 2017. [Learn more here.](#) Or:

[http://dnr.alaska.gov/ag/FarmToSchool/2017\\_FarmToSummerMealSite\\_Application.pdf](http://dnr.alaska.gov/ag/FarmToSchool/2017_FarmToSummerMealSite_Application.pdf)

#### **5. 2017 Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) Annual Training**

Interested in sponsoring SFSP? Annual training is required in order to be an eligible sponsor and receive reimbursement in summer 2017.

- Distance training via WebEx for all non-school sponsors, new and returning, will be held on **Thursday, April 13, 2017.**
- Distance training via WebEx for all school district sponsors, new and returning, will be held on **Thursday, April 20, 2017.**
- In person training will be held in Anchorage at the **BP Energy Center at 900 E. Benson Blvd.** on **Tuesday, May 2, 2017.** This is an all-day training for new and returning sponsors. The [Residence Inn Marriott](#) is across the parking lot if you need hotel accommodations.

Please submit the attached training registration to [Cyde.Coil@alaska.gov](mailto:Cyde.Coil@alaska.gov) by **March 31, 2017.** WebEx login and dial-in information will be sent out via email prior to the training date(s).

#### **6. New Meal Pattern Update –**

Reminder – the new CACFP meal patterns will go into effect October 2017. Make sure to watch for the training registration for the state meal pattern training webinars coming this spring.

#### **7. Updated At-Risk Afterschool Meals Handbook**

You can find the updated At-Risk Afterschool Meals Handbook on the CACFP website under USDA Resources: <https://education.alaska.gov/tls/cnp/CACFP1.html> . It was updated in December 2016.

## **8. USDA ‘How Do They Compare?’ chart updated**

USDA food Nutrition Services (FNS) has updated a chart to help you compare meal pattern requirements for the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), School Meal Programs, and Summer Food Service Program. This resource will assist State agencies and sponsors compare and where various requirements align or slightly differ across all of the Child Nutrition Programs. *The revision clarifies the grain-based dessert requirements in SFSP.* <http://education.alaska.gov/tls/cnp/CACFP4.html>.

## **9. Reach for the Stars with Farm to Preschool**

Check out this exciting new resource from North Carolina Farm to Preschool Network: [Reach for the Stars with Farm to Preschool](#).

Its purpose is to help child care centers and family child care homes integrate farm to preschool activities into their curriculum while addressing the Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale (ECERS). The resource is organized by four farm to preschool activities (Edible Gardening with Young Children, Farm Field Trips/Farmer Visit with Young Children, Local Food Classroom Cooking/Taste Test with Young Children, and Local Food Served in Meals and/or Snacks).

ECER sub-scale items and indicator are aligned with suggested farm to preschool activities. In addition to enriching the educational experience, this resource demonstrates how star ratings can be enhanced through farm to preschool programming.

Also, see the blog about the [CACFP Take Action Challenge on the National Farm to School Network](#).

## **10. Claim Processing**

Most agencies are noticing that it is taking longer to receive their reimbursement than in past years. We are sorry for the inconvenience, but this is due to issues beyond our control. Our office processes your claim within a week of the claim being put into pending approval by your official (unless you have outstanding issues due to review findings). The claims then go to the Finance Office where they work hard to get claims processed quickly, but with the new state accounting system (IRIS) and state budget cuts and layoffs this is taking longer. Our goal is to reimburse each agency within 45 days of a complete submitted claim.

We suggest you submit your claim as soon as you can after the end of the claim month. Please be sure to check the IRIS self-service portal when looking for your payment, since our office cannot provide you with any further information. The finance office posts to that system when they have processed your payment. Here is the link to the IRIS self-service portal: <http://doa.alaska.gov/dof/iris/vendor.html>

### **Contact Information**

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### **Commonly Used Acronyms**

CACFP – Child and Adult Care Food Program  
CNP – Child Nutrition Programs  
FNS – Food & Nutrition Services  
FNSRO-Food & Nut Services Reg. Office  
USDA – U.S. Department of Agriculture  
LEA – Local Education Authority  
DEC – Department of Conservation

All attachments for this bulletin can be found on the State of Alaska Child Nutrition Programs, CACFP Bulletins page: <http://education.alaska.gov/tls/cnp/CACFP4.html>.

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- (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
- (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or
- (3) email: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).

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